Amendment of Essential Commodities Act

@1525. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Essential Commodities Act, Sugar trade between whole sellers has been banned and if so, whether this would be allowed to ensure competitive distribution;

(b) whether jaggary, a perishable product, is proposed to be exempted from the provisions of the Act; and

(c) whether the Essential Commodities Act is proposed to be amended to remove lacunae?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) With a view to prevent hoarding and to ensure smooth flow of sugar to the consumers, only one sale transaction by a wholesaler to another wholesaler and that too, if accompanied by physical delivery of stocks, has ben permitted.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

गेहूं का खरीद मूल्य

†1526. **श्री भूपेन्द्र सिंह मान:** क्या खाद्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गेहूं का पिछला खरीद मूल्य क्या था और तब से लेकर कितनी मात्रा में गेहूं की खरी की गई ;

(ख) उपभोक्ताओं को गेहूं किस मूल्य पर बेचा गया ; और

(ग) इससे कुल कितना लाभ हुआ/हानि हुई ?

खाद्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री तरुण गोगोई) : (क) पहली अप्रैल, 1991 से प्रारंभ रबी विपणन मौसम, 1991–92 के लिए गेहूं का न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य 225 रु० प्रति क्विंटल निर्धारित किया गया था और 29–11–1991 तक 77.52 लाख मीटरी टन गेहूं वसूल कर लिया गया है ।

(ख) भारतीय खाद्य निगम द्वारा विभिन्न राज्यों/संघ शासित प्रदेशों को सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के लिए 1–5–1990 से 234/– रुपए प्रति क्विंटल के एक समान केंद्रीय निर्गम मूल्य (भारतीय खाद्य निगम के गौदामों से) पर गेहूं मुहैया किया जा रहा है । राज्यों संघ शासित प्रदेशों द्वारा अपनी वितरण लागत और मार्जिन, जो कि राज्य पूर्ति राज्य भिन्न-भिन्न होते हैं, को जोड़ने के बाद स्वयं निश्चित खुदरा मूल्य निर्धारित किए जाते हैं ।

(ग) सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के उपभोक्ताओं के लाभ के लिए गेहूं का केंद्रीय निर्गम मूल्य भारतीय खाद्य निगम की वसूली लागत से कम रखा जाता है और इस वजह से दी जाने वाली राज सहायता को सरकार द्वारा वहन किया जाता है । यद्यपि कुल राशि वर्ष में जारी की जाने वाली गेहूं की मात्रा पर निर्भर करेगी, लेकिन वर्ष 1991–92 (बजट अनुमान) के लिए सरकार द्वारा इस समय गेहूं के लिए 98.39 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल की राज सहायता वहन की जा रही है ।

Warehousing Capaciiy

1527. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the existing Warehousing capacity available in the country is inadequate;

@Previously unstarred question 693, transferred from the 28th November, 1991.

††पूर्वत: अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 697, 28 नवम्बर, 1991 से स्थानांतरित ।

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to increase the capacity during the Eighth Plan Period; and

(c) the State-wise schemes drawn up in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c) The warehousing capacity available in the country is adequate to meet the current storage requirements except that, on a micro-level basis, storage facilities for foodgrains need to be provided in certain remote, hilly and inaccessible areas. However, to take care of future requirements, the two main central agencies, namely, Food Corporation of India and Central Warehousing Corporation have proposed expansion of storage capacity by 10 lakh tonnes and 12.5 lakh tonnes respectively during the Eighth Plan period. State wise distribution of additional capacity, as tentatively indicated by the two Corporations, is given in the Statement attached.

Statement

Storage Construction programme tentatively proposed by Food Corporation of India and Central warehousing Corporation during VIII plan (1922-97)

(in .000 tonnes)

S.No.	State/U.T.	Capacity proposed by FCI	Capacity proposed by CWC
1	2	3	4
1	Arunachal Pradesh	5·00	
2	Assam	5·00	54,60
3	Andhra Pradesh	195.00	20.00
4	Andaman & Nicobar Island	..	3·00
5	Bihar	40·00	5·00
6	Delhi	55·00	30·00
7	Gujarat	50·00	75·00
8	Himachal Pradesh	13·34	15·00
9	Haryana	..	35·00
10	Jammu & Kashmir	20·00	5·00
11	Kerala	60·00	10·00
12	Karnataka	105·00	67·70
13	Manipur	10·00	5·00
14	Meghalaya	20·00	..
15	Mizoram	15·00	..
16	Madhya Pradesh	20·00	74·10
17	Maharashtra	60·00	153·00
18	Nagaland	10·00	5·00

1	2	3	4
19	Orissa	25·00	100·00
20	Punjab	..	20·00
21	Sikkim	..	3·00
22	Tamil Nadu	40·00	33·00
23	Tripura	17·92	10·00
24	Rajasthan	57·91	35·00
25	Uttar Pradesh	97·65	58·00
26	West Bengal	78·34	180·00
	TOTAL	1000·16**	996·40
			253·60*
			1250·00

* Centres are to be identified.

** inclusive of spillover works.

Sale of Rice without Payment of levy in Maharashtra

1528. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have received a memorandum from the All India Paddy Growers Farm Labour Save Committee for a CBI inquiry into the alleged sale of rice by mill owners in the Open market without paying the levy in Maharashtra; and if so the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): Yes, Sir, The representation has been sent to the Government of Maharashtra as it is the responsibility of the State Government to implement its levy orders.

Buffer Stock of Foodgrains

1529. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) what is the extent of shortage of foodgrains grainwise as compared to the levels prescribed under the Buffer Stocking Policy;

(b) what is the quantum of minimum stocks required to be maintained under the policy;

(c) the reasons for the shortfall;

(d) the extent of impact the shortfall is likely to have on the Public Distribution System; and

(e) the steps being taken to make good the shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c) The total minimum stocks required to be maintained by the public agencies on different dates in a year as per the buffer stocking policy adopted by the Government are as under:—